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## REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-14, 24-31 and 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Blomquist 1637.

This rejection has been obviated by the following statement. US Application Serial No. 10/067,669 and US Patent 6,496,637 were, at the time the invention of US Application Serial No. 10/067,669 was made, owned by Corning Incorporated.

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In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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